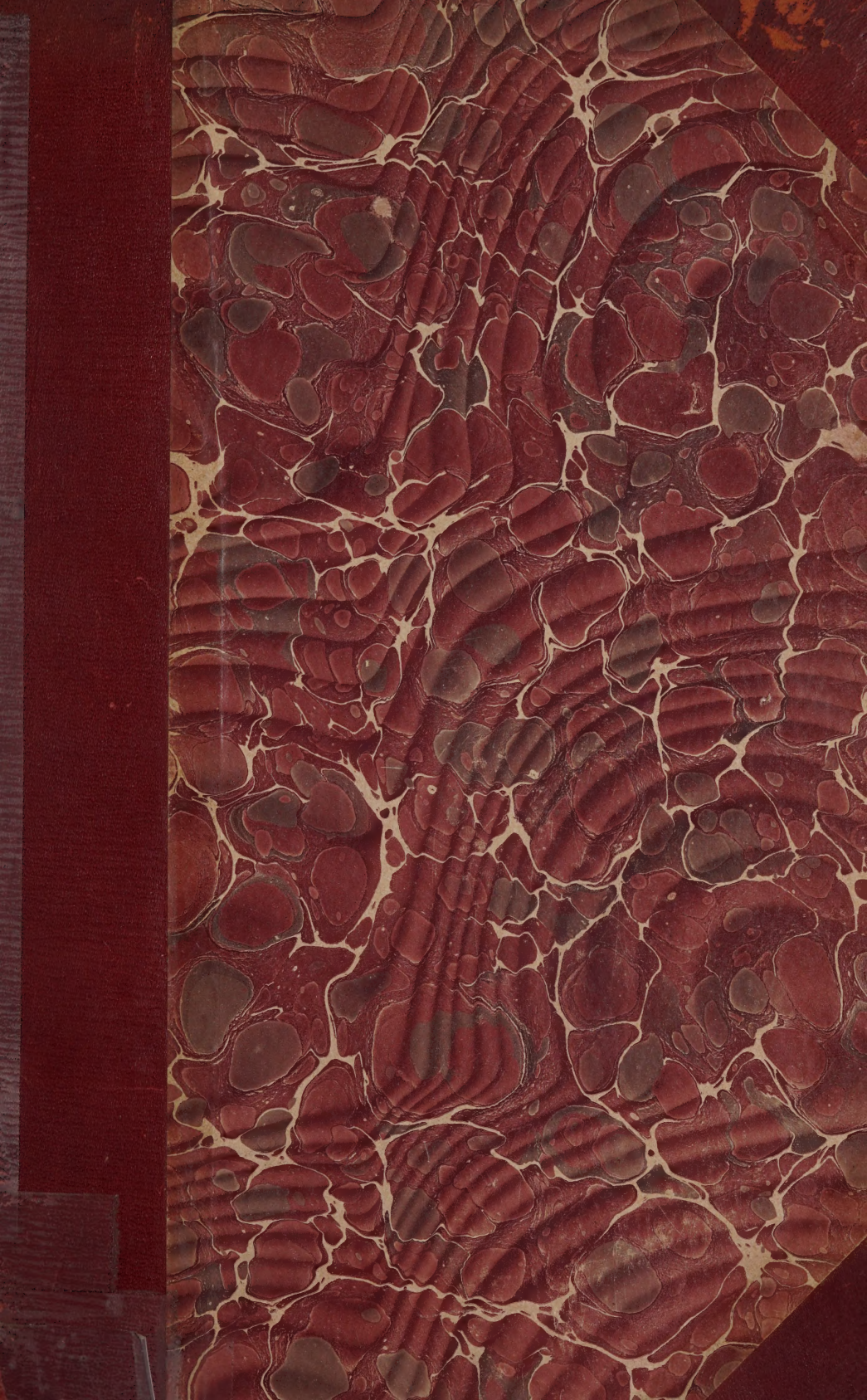




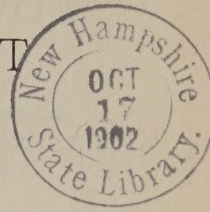
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ANNUAL REPORT



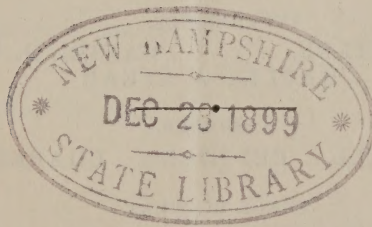
OF THE

TOWN OF PELHAM, N.H.,

SHOWING THE

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1887.



LOWELL, MASS.

MORNING MAIL PRINT: NO. 18 JACKSON STREET.

1887.

22

TOWN OFFICERS, 1886.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

CHARLES L. SEAVEY, SAMUEL KELLEY,
O. W. SPAULDING.

TOWN CLERK.

DANIEL P. ATWOOD.

TOWN TREASURER.

ENOCH M. MARSH.

FISH AND GAME WARDENS.

WILLIS H. ATWOOD, HENRY LEWIS, MARCELL H. SMITH,
WM. D. PAXTON, CHARLES G. MOORE.

CONSTABLES.

OTIS G. SPEAR, CHARLES W. HOBBS, DANIEL P. ATWOOD,
DANIEL M. WEBSTER.

SURVEYORS OF LUMBER AND SURVEYORS AND CORDERS OF WOOD.

DANIEL MARSHALL,	GEORGE S. BUTLER,
CHARLES L. SEAVEY,	ELMER W. BOUTWELL,
ALLEN E. LEWIS,	CHARLES W. HOBBS,
GEORGE H. CURRIER,	RICHARD B. HILLMAN.
LUTHER C. RICHARDSON,	CHARLES W. SPEAR,
NELSON WEBSTER,	WM. G. BUTLER,
MARTIN L. JONES,	PATRICK I. COGGER.

SCHOOL BOARD.

CHARLES W. HOBBS, JONATHAN N. WOODMAN,
GEORGE E. PEARSONS.

SUPERVISORS.

GEORGE S. BUTLER, DANIEL H. WEBSTER,
CHARLES W. SPEAR.

AUDITORS.

DANIEL MARSHALL, REI HILLS, CHARLES W. HOBBS.

FENCE VIEWERS.

DANIEL MARSHALL, CHARLES W. HOBBS,
DANIEL N. ATWOOD.

SEXTON.

KIMBALL J. CHAPLIN,

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

TOTAL VALUATION OF THE TOWN, APRIL 1, 1886.

Number of polls, 250	\$ 25,000
Number of horses, 243.....	17,867
Number of cows, 765.....	19,703
Number of oxen, 20	1,360
Number of neat stock, 59	969
Number of sheep, 52.....	146
Number of hogs, 62.....	539
Number of carriages taxable, 15.....	1,240
Value of bank stock in the state.....	2,800
Money at interest.....	28,045
Stock in trade.....	7,447
Mills and machinery.....	9,900
Real estate, resident.....	313,378
Real and personal estate, non-resident.....	107,246

Total valuation of the town, April 1, 1886.....\$535,640

TAXES ASSESSED AND COMMITTED TO COLLECTOR.

State tax.....	\$1,116 00
County tax.....	812 34
For schools.....	1,400 00
For new road.....	500 00
For Prescott & Emerson, damage.....	500 00
For railing dangerous places.....	300 00
For safe.....	200 00
Non-resident highway tax.....	299 08
Dog tax.....	114 00
Interest on town debt.....	114 00
Overlayings.....	50 31
School property.....	3,900 00

\$9,305 73

Rate of taxation, exclusive of highway tax and school property,
\$9.30 on \$1000.

Rate on school property, \$7.30 on \$1000.

Rate of highway tax, \$2.80 on \$1000.

SCHOOL MONEY.

Whole amount due the several old school districts, March 1, 1887.....	\$1,028 37
Balance due school district No. 1, March 1, 1887..	\$234 76
“ “ “ “ No. 2, “ “ ..	144 91
“ “ “ “ No. 3, “ “ ..	219 99
“ “ “ “ No. 4, “ “ ..	157 55
“ “ “ “ No. 5, “ “ ..	165 69
“ “ “ “ No. 6, “ “ ..	105 47
	\$1,028 37

SCHOOL MONEY APPROPRIATED.

For Town District, for 1886.....	\$1,400 00
Literary Fund of 1885.....	108 58
Dog fund of 1885.....	115 00
Total	\$1,623 58

PAID SCHOOL BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1887, FOR THE SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS OF SAID TOWN.

Of town appropriation of 1886.....	\$1,146 42
Literary fund of 1885.....	108 58
Dog fund of 1885.....	115 00
Total.....	\$1,370 00

AMOUNT OF MONEY UNEXPENDED.

Of appropriation for Town District, for 1886.....	\$253 58
Literary fund, now in the treasury.....	103 67
Dog fund, now in the treasury.....	114 00
	\$471 25

PAY OF TOWN OFFICERS.**SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.**

Paid Augustus Berry, for services in 1885	\$40 00
---	---------

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Paid Charles L. Seavey, for services in 1885..	\$80 00
Samuel Kelley, “ “ “ “ ..	42 00
Orlando W. Spaulding, “ “ “ “ ..	30 00
	\$152 00

TREASURER.

Paid David A. Greeley, for services in 1885.....	\$40 00
--	---------

TOWN CLERK.

Paid Daniel P. Atwood, for services in 1885...	\$30 00	
" " " other expenses.....	65	
" " " recording births and deaths.....	5 10	
		\$35 75

SEXTON.

Paid Kimball J. Chaplin, for services in 1885...	\$38 50	
" " " for labor on Gowell lot,	2 50	
		\$41 00

COLLECTOR OF TAXES.

Paid C. W. Spear, part pay for collecting taxes in 1885..	\$60 00
---	---------

SUPERVISORS.

Paid F. A. Cutter, for services for two years ending Nov., 1886.....	\$15 00	
Jonathan M. Atwood, for services for two years ending Nov., 1886.....	15 00	
		\$30 00

ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

Paid O. W. Spaulding, amount due school district No. 3. in Treasury Tax of 1884.....	\$38 13
---	---------

HIGHWAYS.

Paid Nathan S. Sleeper, for gravel in 1885.....	\$7 00	
C. L. Seavey, for 6,690 feet railing delivered, at \$18,	120 00	
" " for 333 posts at 15c., delivered.....	49 95	
" " for putting up railing.....	21 75	
James A. Hobbs, putting up railing and labor on high- ways near Sampson's mill.....	14 70	
O. F. Carlton, for labor in highway district No. 1,. above appropriation.....	8 97	
Nelson Webster, for labor on highways in district No. 10, for 1885, above appropriation.....	21 04	
Mr. Harris, damage to carriage by reason of defective highway.....	2 50	
Samuel Kelley, for putting up railing on highways...	21 60	
		\$267 51

BRIDGES.

Total cost of repairs on Beaver Brook bridge on Mammoth Road between Windham and Pelham.....	\$45 79
(Expense on Windham side, \$13.55.)	

Paid F. M. Woodbury, for spikes.....	2 25
Fred Taylor, " "	2 60
Whitney & Tibbetts, for plank on bridge near Isaac Marshall's.....	16 13
for teaming plank for bridge near Isaac Marshall's...	2 00
I. C. Marshall, for labor on bridge near " "	2 00
C. L. Seavey, 180 feet plank for bridge near Isaac Marshall's.....	2 88
for 2-log railing, 36 feet long, for bridge near Isaac Marshall's.....	2 00
	\$75 65

NEW ROAD.

Cost of laying-over pier, piling, etc.....	\$126 09
Paid A. R. Hobbs, for raising grade.....	25 25
	\$151 34

TOWN PAUPERS.

Paid County of Hillsborough, for board of Lizzie A. Roney from Sept. 15, 1885, to Sept. 17, 1886...	\$131 25
funeral expense of Lizzie A. Roney.....	8 60
for board of Frederic Titcomb at N. H. Insane Asylum, from Dec. 31, 1885, to Dec. 31, 1886.....	124 73
	\$264 58

COUNTY PAUPERS.

County of Hillsborough to Town of Pelham, Dr.:

To board of Winthrop Center from Oct. 15, 1886, to Feb. 3, 1887, at one dollar per week.....	\$68 00
clothing for same.....	12 00
	\$80 00

Feb., 1887, received of County Commissioners, on account of Winthrop Center.....	\$80 00
--	---------

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid M. V. B. Green, for books and paper.....	\$4 35
Morning Mail Co., printing 350 town reports.....	29 00
Daniel Marshall, for help in finding school district lines,	1 00
Geo. H. Currier, for help in finding district lines....	1 00
expense in looking for safe in Boston, April 24.....	6 50
expense to Boston looking for town safe, June 30....	2 25
expense to Boston looking for town safe, Aug. 31....	4 00
for teaming safe from Lowell, Sept. 6.....	5 00
for placing safe, shoring floor and finding lumber....	5 00
Arthur B. Curtis, for town safe.....	125 00

Paid Amos Bachelder, for recording births and deaths from July 1, 1885, to Oct. 1, 1886.....	\$4 00
for four constable's badges	5 25
C. L. Seavey, for two bolts in road machine.....	20
C. L. Seavey, cost of getting estimates for cost of building for public records.....	1 50
one day's time, and counsel fees in school law.....	5 00
for one-half day copying school district property....	1 00
Jonas Keyes, keeping public watering trough in '86.	3 00
C. L. Seavey, for aid furnished tramps, for the year ending March 1, 1887.....	3 50
Samuel Kelley, expense and time buying town safe..	7 65
Nelson Webster, for repairs on road machine.....	50
W. D. Kent, for repairs on road machine and oil....	85
P. J. Cogger, for keeping public watering trough for two years, 1885-6.....	6 00
James E. Butler, for keeping public watering trough in 1886.....	3 00
Charles M. Hardy, for repairs on settees in 1885....	2 75
Wm. W. Butler, for keeping public watering trough in 1886.....	3 00
Dr. Sawyer, for examination of the body of Anseme Pilladeau, who was kill by a falling tree in said town, Jan. 11, 1887.....	1 50
Dr. Sawyer, for making examination of Frederic Eastman, as ordered by Selectmen, to prove his insanity, Feb. 24th, 1887	1 50
F. H. Hillman, note and interest.....	539 89
Daniel Marshall, note.....	500 00
	\$1,273 14

CEMETERIES.

Paid Smith & Mahoney, for labor and tools in Gumpus Cemetery	\$ 48 37
Samuel Kelley, for labor getting out stone for Gum- pus Cemetery (near the same).....	19 50
C. L. Seavey, for men and team hauling stone.....	20 25
C. L. Seavey, for board of masons.....	12 50
F. M. Woodbury, for powder and fuse.....	1 15
Frank Kent, for 3 days' labor in cemetery	4 50
Samuel Kelley, for 2 gate posts.....	7 00
Kimball J. Chaplin, for grubbing bushes.....	9 32
Total for Gumpus Cemetery.	\$122 59

CEMETERY NEAR J. M. ATWOOD'S.

Paid Samuel Kelley, for one day's labor.....	\$1 50
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CONSTABLES.

Paid Otis G. Spear, for one day's service at dedication of John Butler monument.....	\$2 00
Charles W. Hobbs, for same	2 00
Daniel M. Webster, "	2 00
Daniel P. Atwood, "	2 00
	\$8 00

TOWN HALL.

Paid Mrs. Clarinda Spear, for cleaning hall.....	\$ 3 00
Mrs. Inez Thomas, " "	1 50
Mrs. David Lee, " "	1 50
Mrs. Daniel Coburn, " "	1 50
Mr. David Lee, " "	1 50
Frank Stickney, " "	5 00
" " for washing table cloths	6 00
Frank M. Woodbury, for articles furnished hall.....	8 00
Frank Stickney, for wood and coal....	3 90
C. L. Seavey, for 3 cords pine wood.....	10 00
Frank Stickney, for opening hall 83 times at 33 cts..	27 39
Whitney & Tibbetts, for 12,000 shingles.....	46 56
O. G. Spear, for laying shingles on hall.....	23 76
C. L. Seavey, for teaming shingles.....	1 50
C. L. Seavey, for saddle boards and lumber used for staging	4 00
Net expense.....	\$145 11
Received of Frank Stickney, for use of hall.....	53 50
Expense above income.....	\$91 61

STATE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Paid for board and clothing for Henry M. Gale, from Oct. 6, 1886, to Jan. 1, 1887, at \$1.50 per week.....	\$18 43
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BREAKING SNOW PATHS.

Paid O. W. Spaulding, for breaking out roads in 1884, 115 hours.....	\$17 25
Nathan S. Sleeper, for cutting ice-bound trees... ..	50
E. G. Hobbs, for breaking snow paths in Jan., 1887..	4 13
John Wilson, " " " " " ..	65
Gage A. Fox, " " " " " ..	75
P. J. Cogger, " " " " " ..	2 50
John L. Mansur, for cutting ice-bound trees.....	1 80
O. W. Spaulding, for breaking snow paths, Jan., 1887,	3 75
	\$31 33

MRS. CALEB CARLTON ACCOUNT.

Mrs. Caleb Carlton asked assistance of the Overseers of the Poor,
April 1, 1884.

April 5.	Mrs. Carlton taken to Charles Kent's to board.		
May 2.	To one-half day packing goods.....	\$1 00	
May 3.	moving goods to Charles Kent's.....	1 00	
May 3.	cash paid Mrs. Carlton.....	2 00	
June 3.	Paid Charles Kent for 7 weeks' board ..	28 00	
June 5.	R. B. Hillman, 1 day packing goods,	2 00	
June 5.	C. L. Seavey, $\frac{1}{2}$ day packing goods.	1 00	
July 27.	Chas. Kent, 9 weeks' board at \$3.50,	31 50	
Aug. 25.	Mrs. Carlton, cash.....	3 00	
Sept. 4.	Rec'd of Lowell Five Ct. Savings Bank.		\$147 99
Sept. 4.	of Central Savings Bank.....		42 52
Sept. 3.	Paid Charles Kent, for board.....	20 00	
Oct. 13.	" " "	3 87	
Oct. 29.	" " " to date....	21 72	
Nov. 12.	Brought from Mrs. Carlton's to Charles Kent's, for Mrs. C.'s use, 1 feather bed, 1 pair new wool blankets, 4 sheets, 2 comfortables, 2 pillows and slips, and 1 rocking chair and cushion.		
Nov. 12.	To $\frac{1}{4}$ day moving said goods.....	75	
Dec. 11.	Rec'd rent on house f'm Chs. Richardson,		15 00
Dec. 15.	Paid taxes of 1883 and 1884.....	32 53	
1885.			
Jan. 20.	Paid Charles Kent, for board.....	25 00	
Feb. 6.	" " "	20 50	
May 12.	" " "	16 00	
July 9.	" " "	20 00	
July 21.	for printing auction bills.....	1 75	
July 21.	for posting bills.....	2 00	
July 27.	C. L. Seavey, $\frac{1}{2}$ day with team....	1 50	
July 30.	Daniel N. Atwood, auctioneer	10 00	
July 30.	other expenses of sale.....	8 50	
July 30.	Received from sale.....		115 86
July 30.	Brought white spread from Mrs. Carlton's to Charles Kent's.		
Aug. 1.	Paid C. L. Seavey, $\frac{1}{2}$ day with team....	1 50	
Aug. 3.	taxes of 1885.....	14 25	
Aug. 11.	Charles Kent, for board to date, at \$3.00	62 00	
Nov. 17.	Charles Kent, for 16 weeks' board.	48 00	
1886.			
Feb. 28.	Charles Kent, for 13 weeks' board, to March 1st, 1886.....	39 00	
June 2.	Charles Kent, to June 1st.....	39 00	
July 1.	Charles Kent, for board, 16 days ..	7 00	
July 1.	Angeline Kent, nursing Mrs. Carlton 32 days in last sickness.....	32 00	

July 1.	Paid Livonia D. Currier, for help in Mrs. Carlton's last sickness.....	\$5 00	
	Amos Bachelder, two visits to Mrs. Carlton	1 00	
1885.			
Nov. 17.	Received of James McKissuck, for two quarters' rent of Carlton farm, May 1st to Nov. 1st, 1885.....		37 50
Nov. 12.	Received of James McKissuck, for rent from Nov. 1, 1885, to Nov. 1, 1886 (25 cents on a dollar).....		18 75
1887.			
Feb. 1.	Received of James McKissuck, for rent from Nov. 1, 1886, to Feb. 1, 1887....		18 75
		\$502 37	\$396 37

The town is to receive the next quarter's rent from James McKissuck, ending May 1st, 1887, amounting to \$18.75, leaving a balance against the town, May 1st, 1887, of \$87.25. This amount the heirs of Caleb Carlton's estate agree to pay when the estate is settled.

APPRAISAL OF EACH OLD SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Total valuation of school district No. 1, April 1, 1886...	\$ 95,877
" " " " No. 2, " " ...	126,567
" " " " No. 3, " " ...	77,186
" " " " No. 4, " " ...	99,031
" " " " No. 5, " " ...	102,836
" " " " No. 6, " " ...	33,889

ESTIMATED VALUE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY.

School district No. 1, April 1, 1886.....	\$ 250
" " No. 2, " "	1,000
" " No. 3, " "	200
" " No. 4, " "	1,250
" " No. 5, " "	550
" " No. 6, " "	650
	\$3,900

REMITTANCE OF TAXES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.

School district No. 1.....	\$249 38
" " No. 2.....	998 24
" " No. 3.....	200 74
" " No. 4.....	1,252 12
" " No. 5.....	560 35
" " No. 6.....	650 63

\$3,911 46

RATE OF REMITTANCE.

District No. 1	\$2.60 on \$1000
“ No. 2	7.90 on 1000
“ No. 3	2.60 on 1000
“ No. 4	12.60 on 1000
“ No. 5	5.40 on 1000
“ No. 6	19.30 on 1000

DIRECT TAX, EXCLUSIVE OF HIGHWAY TAX.

District No. 1	\$14.00* on \$1000
“ No. 2	8.70 on 1000
“ No. 3	14.00 on 1000
“ No. 4	4.00 on 1000
“ No. 5	11.20 on 1000
“ No. 6 has \$2.70 on \$1000 due them above 1886 tax.	

ABATEMENT OF TAXES IN 1884 LIST.

Highway taxes, paid in labor.....	\$80 00
Milton E. Burt, poll tax	97
A. E. Bachelder, “	97
Henry Conner “	97
Thomas McNamara “	97
Asa W. Kent, “	97
Jonathan Cluff, part of tax of 1884.....	2 47
	\$87 32

ABATEMENT OF TAXES IN 1885 LIST.

Calvin Coburn, tax of 1885.....	\$11 25
D. B. Bachelder, poll tax.....	75
Thomas Doherty.....	75
Martin L. Favor.....	75
Asa W. Kent.....	75
Owen Muldoon	4 50
Nathan Sleeper, poll tax	75
Jonathan Cluff, part of tax of 1885	2 74
Mrs. O. C. Libby, tax of 1885.....	1 58
Non-resident highway taxes, paid in labor, 1885	83 13
	\$106 95

ASSETS.

Amount of cash in hands of Collector of 1885 list.....	\$ 63 89
“ “ “ “ 1886 “ above	
remittance	1,340 38
Amount of cash in Treasury, March 1, 1887.....	353 94
“ due from James McKissuck.....	18 75
	\$1,776 96

LIABILITIES.

Amount due the several old school districts.....	\$1,028 37
Amount due town district, unexpended town appropria- tion of 1886.....	253 58
Amount dog fund of 1886	114 00
Amount literary fund of 1886	103 67
Estimated amount due town officers	300 00
	\$1,799 62
Balance against the town, \$22.66.	

RECAPITULATION.

Paid State tax.....	\$1,116 00
county tax.....	812 34
for Sarah Carlton, in 1886.....	81 96
abatement on 1884 list	87 32
abatement on 1885 list	106 95
School Board.....	1,370 00
Road Commissioners.....	38 13
Town officers.....	398 75
for highways.....	267 51
for bridges.....	75 65
for new road.....	151 34
for town paupers	264 58
for county paupers	80 00
Miscellaneous	1,276 94
Cemeteries	124 09
Constables	8 00
Town hall.....	145 11
State Industrial School.....	18 43
Breaking snow paths.....	27 58
	\$6,450 68

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer respectfully submits the following report for the year ending March 1, 1887 :

DR.

To cash in Treasury March 1st, 1886, including \$108.58, literary fund, and \$115.00, dog fund.....	\$809 86
Received of County Commissioners for aid furnished county paupers.....	80 00
Received from Mary J. Tinker, highway tax of 1885.....	3 60
Cash received of Munroe Hills, for old bridge plank.....	2 00
“ “ from Gowell fund.....	3 50
“ “ of Amos Bachelder, highway tax of 1884 and '85	13 36
“ “ of James McKissuck, for rent of Caleb Carlton farm, from Nov. 1, 1885, to Feb. 1, 1887.....	37 50
“ “ of Orandel Burt, for rent of O. C. Libby place, one year.....	12 00
“ “ of town of Windham, for repairs on Beaver Brook bridge.....	13 55
“ “ Frank Stickney, for use of town hall.....	53 50
“ “ of K. J. Chaplin, for sale of one lot in cemetery,	1 00
State Treasurer, railroad tax.....	115 02
“ “ “ “ savings bank tax	404 39
“ “ “ “ literary fund.....	103 68
“ “ of C. W. Spear, taxes of 1884 list.....	208 58
“ “ of C. W. Spear, taxes of 1885 list.....	889 20
“ “ of Daniel M. Webster, Collector of 1886 list....	4,053 88
Total amount received from all sources.....	<u>\$6,804 62</u>

CR.

By cash paid on sundry orders issued by the Selectmen.....	\$6,450 68
Leaving amount of cash in treasury, March 1, 1887, including \$103.68, literary fund, and \$114.00, dog fund.....	<u>\$353 94</u>

AMOUNT OF THE TOWN'S INDEBTEDNESS.

Amount due Congregational Society..	\$800 00
“ “ Daniel Marshall.....	100 00
Estimated amount of interest.....	<u>75 00</u>
Total.....	\$975 00

ENOCH M. MARSH, *Town Treasurer.*

AUDITORS' REPORT.

PELHAM, Feb. 26th, 1887.

We, the undersigned, a Committee to examine the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the Town of Pelham, for the year ending March 1, 1887, find the Selectmen have issued orders to the amount of \$6,450.68, and said orders were properly receipted. And we find that the Town Treasurer has received \$6,804.62, and has paid the above mentioned orders to the amount of \$6,450.68, leaving a balance in the Treasury to the amount of \$353.94.

CHARLES W. HOBBS,
REI HILLS,

Auditors.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Town Clerk and Registrar respectfully submits the following report of the Vital Statistics of the Town of Pelham for the year ending December 31, 1886 :

MARRIAGES.

Whole number of marriage certificates issued during the year,	7
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BIRTHS.

Whole number of births returned for the year, of which 5 were male and 6 were female children.....	11
--	----

DEATHS.

Whole number of deaths returned during the year for which burial permits were issued.....	15
Number of bodies removed from town and interred in other places.....	5
Brought from other places and interred in this town.....	11

DANIEL P. ATWOOD,
Town Clerk and Registrar.

REPORT
OF
THE SCHOOL BOARD
OF THE
TOWN OF PELHAM,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1887.

SCHOOL BOARD.

CHARLES W. HOBBS, - - - - - TERM EXPIRES MARCH, 1889.

JONATHAN N. WOODMAN, - - - TERM EXPIRES MARCH, 1888.

GEORGE E. PEARSON, - - - - - TERM EXPIRES MARCH, 1887.

REPORT.

In compliance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire, your School Board respectfully submit the following report:

This board has been placed in an unenviable position in the year just closed. As you all well know, they were chosen to comply with a law that was distasteful to them, as well as to a large majority of the people of our town, but they have tried to live up to the *letter* of the law, without clashing more than was possible with the existing state of things in our schools. We have, so far as we could ascertain, complied with the wishes of the people personally interested in the different schools.

It certainly would seem that our whole system of government must be a failure, if the people, after enjoying the benefits of a free government for more than a century, should not be capable of judging for themselves as to the best methods of educating their children, but the assembled wisdom of our state, led by a few men who think that all the common sense, as well as all the ability, of the old "Granite State," is covered by the hats they wear, passed a law compelling districts to sell what they wanted to keep, and towns to buy what they did not want. At least the methods used to secure the passage of the law were such as to show that education, sometimes, at least, is an advantage where sharp practice is required to secure a questionable purpose.

As is well known, no radical changes have been made and the existing order of affairs was continued as nearly as possible, and we think that at least no backward step

has been taken by the schools during the past year. But the impression has been given us by what we see, that the local pride in the school felt by every person in the district, has received a blow, and the interest that has ever been manifested in the schools of the town has decreased. Such cannot be the case without a serious injury to the schools, for as much depends upon those who are outside of the school-house, as those on the inside, in fixing the character and usefulness of the school, and anything which produces an interest in the school will result in a benefit to it.

In a portion of the former districts in this town much interest has been manifested, not only in the schools, but in the buildings and surroundings, and now the people who have worked and given for this purpose, can have no local pride in it, for the whole town now has the same right as they.

In the matter of selecting teachers for the different schools it is now especially difficult, for a person residing in the district must have a much better idea of a teacher that will *suit* the people, than one who lives at a distance, and it is certainly true that a teacher, no matter of how high qualifications, or ability, if they have not the faculty of suiting themselves to the people of the locality, cannot do that earnest work, and achieve such results as they can otherwise.

The people of this town provide liberally for the education of their children, and the schools have money enough for all their wants, but still there must be something besides money and teachers to produce good schools,—there must be a public sentiment to sustain the teacher as well as the school officer; they must always hope for the best, and impress upon the minds of the scholars that something rests with them. As has been

said before, the teacher cannot learn for the scholar—the scholar must work. There is no royal road to education, it can only be obtained by hard, earnest, persevering labor, and those only can obtain it who work for it themselves; all are self-made to a great extent. The instruction and discipline of the school is only laying the foundation upon which to build. In the ordinary understanding of the term, education, as applied to our common schools, is acquiring the knowledge of reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, etc. These are the elements taught by the teacher, and will sufficiently fit men and women for the ordinary business of life. It is upon this foundation that all education is built, and although a person may live even without this, it can hardly be called living,—it might be called existing. The best method, and the only true method, of education, is that which develops the powers of the pupil in the most symmetrical manner, that which makes the truest man or woman,—the truthful, honest, law-abiding citizen. This is the object of the common school, and where the good school is, there will be good men and women.

TEXT BOOKS.

The text books in use in our schools have been the same as last year; no changes have been made, and we trust the time will soon come when the town will provide and own them, and in that way secure a uniformity of classification, which is impossible now without considerable extra expense, in many cases where it can be ill afforded. In some states the books are supplied by the state, thus a uniform system of instruction and text books are secured, and at a much less expense than can be done when in every town there may be different books, and at the same time it would do away with one

of the most disagreeable duties of the School Board, that is, making changes or refusing to make them, at the solicitation of the innumerable travelling or stationary agents of the various publishers. It would seem that a state board would be better qualified to judge the merits of a text book than to leave it as it is now.

TEACHERS.

The teachers in our schools for the past year have been, without any exception, well qualified for the positions assigned them, both mentally and morally, and the work they have done has been an honor to them and to the people of the town. In most cases they have been teachers of experience, in our own as well as other schools, and we think their labors will compare favorably with those of the same number of teachers in any other town. Such teachers, and in fact, all teachers, to secure the best results for their labors, should be supported by the people of the district, not alone financially, but with that moral support which alone can secure a good school. If the pupils at home are told that a teacher is a poor teacher, and cannot keep a good school, that school is a failure in almost every instance. In our town, as a general rule, the people do sustain the teacher, but enough of the fault-finding spirit is abroad, at times, to materially injure good and thorough instruction.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

The school houses at the present time come directly under the charge of the town, and are to be kept in repair, etc., by the town directly. With the very liberal appropriations for school purposes, which this town has always made, and which we believe they always will make, it becomes a necessity, for the proper expenditure

of the money, that the school houses should be suitable for the purpose for which they were designed. In districts Nos. 2, 4, and 5, the houses are in fair condition, with the exception of No. 4 house, which needs shingling. It would be economy to shingle it this year, as the shingles are in a bad condition and will require patching, and this will only put off the shingling for a year or two at the most. The school houses in districts Nos. 1 and 3 are unfit for school purposes and should be rebuilt or repaired to make them decent. It is useless to expect the best results from the money expended in houses that are unsuitable for the purpose.

The attendance during the first two terms was quite regular, but, owing to sickness, during the winter term it was quite variable, much more so than usual. In district No. 4 the school was brought to a close by sickness in the family of the teacher; and in district No. 5 the school was closed, for a time, on account of severe sickness among the pupils.

STATISTICS.

DISTRICT No. 1. MISS JULIA A. BIXBY of Lowell, Mass., teacher for the year. Number weeks of school, 31. Length of first term, 9 weeks; second term, 10 weeks; third term, 12 weeks. Number of different pupils, first term, 33; second term, 35; third term, 30; for the year, 39. Average attendance for the year, 27; boys, 15; girls, 24. Wages of teacher, first term, \$34; second and third terms, \$36. The whole school attended to reading, spelling and writing, 35 to arithmetic, 29 to geography, 28 to grammar, 10 to composition, 4 to algebra, 1 to geometry, 6 to philosophy. Miscellaneous expenses, \$17.16. Teacher's wages, \$274.50.

DISTRICT No. 2. MISS M. AMANDA CLOYD, teacher for the year. Number weeks of school, 31. Length of first term, 8 weeks; second term, 11 weeks; third term, 12 weeks. Number of different pupils, first term, 28; second term, 24; third term, 27; for the year, 37. Average attendance for the year, 22; boys, 24; girls, 13. Wages of teacher for the first and second terms, \$32; third term, \$40. The whole school attended to reading, writing and spelling, 27 to arithmetic, 23 to geography, 21 to grammar, 8 to history, 27 to composi-

tion, 21 to book-keeping, 3 to algebra, 10 to botany, 13 to natural history. Miscellaneous expenses, \$17.34. Teacher's wages, \$272.

DISTRICT No. 3. Miss ANNIE J. BLANCHARD, of Windham, N. H., teacher of first and second terms; Mr. WILLIS E. PEARSON, teacher of the third term. Number weeks of school, 31. Length of first term, 9 weeks; second term, 10 weeks; third term, 12 weeks. Number of different pupils, first term, 17; second term, 16; third term, 19; for the year, 25; boys, 17; girls, 8. Average attendance for the year, 13. Wages of teacher, first term, \$30; second term, \$32; third term, \$36. The whole school attended to reading and spelling, 13 to writing, 16 to arithmetic, 14 to geography, 7 to grammar, 3 to history, 11 to composition, 2 to physiology, 2 to book-keeping, 2 to algebra, 2 to philosophy. Miscellaneous expenses, \$12.69. Teachers' wages, \$255.50.

DISTRICT No. 4. Miss AGNES T. FAY, of Lowell, Mass., teacher of the first term; Miss HATTIE C. BEATTIE, of Wenlock, Vt., teacher of second and third terms. Number weeks of school, 27. Length of first term, 9 weeks; second term, 9 weeks; third term, 9 weeks. Number of different pupils, first term, 30; second term, 25; third term, 21; for the year, 31; boys, 16; girls, 15. Average attendance for the year, 20. Wages of teacher for the first and second terms, \$32; for the third term, \$40. The whole school attended to reading and spelling, 18 to writing, 22 to arithmetic, 19 to geography, 8 to grammar, 20 to composition, 1 to drawing, 26 to vocal music, 17 to physiology, 1 to book-keeping, 4 to algebra, 2 to philosophy, 2 to botany. Miscellaneous expenses, \$31.49. Teachers' wages, \$234.

DISTRICT No. 5. Miss SUSAN M. SMITH and Miss LUELLA HOBBS, teachers of the first term; Miss SUSAN M. SMITH, teacher of the second term; Miss BERTHA SIMPSON, of Lowell, Mass., teacher of third term. Length of first term 9 weeks, second term 11 weeks, third term not finished. Number of different pupils, first term 22, second term 26, third term 27, for the year 28, boys 15, girls 13, average attendance for the first two terms 22. Wages of teacher for the first and second terms \$32, for the third term \$36. On account of sickness the school in this district was discontinued for a few weeks, and will finish out a term of 10 weeks. Miscellaneous expenses, \$8.50. Teachers' wages, \$152 for two terms. Cash paid for conveying scholars, \$5.

DISTRICT No. 6. There has been no school in this district the past year.

Amount of school money drawn from town treasury, \$1,370.00. Amount expended for schools for the year, including the expense of the third term in District No. 5, which is estimated, \$1,375.50. Total number of scholars that have attended school the past year in this town, 160. Expense per scholar, \$8.54.

CHARLES W. HOBBS,
JONATHAN N. WOODMAN,
GEORGE E. PEARSON,

School Board.

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